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10 MAR 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE

SUBJECT: USCSB Computer Security Ad Hoc Committee
Meeting - 3 March 1971

1. On 2 March 1971, the undersigned contacted [redacted] to confirm that [redacted] did not expect him to present a briefing on USIB computer security activities at the 3 March 1971 Ad Hoc Committee meeting. [redacted] stated that he had no such expectation and indicated that he had not tried to contact the Executive Secretary, USIB to arrange such a briefing as we had discussed on 26 February. [redacted] also stated that he has had difficulty in getting any information from the Office of Telecommunications Policy (OTP).

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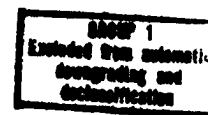
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2. During our 2 February telephone conversation, I pointed out that I would probably be assigned the job of briefing his Group on USIB computer security activities, no matter how he initiated his request. I suggested that a summary of our activities posed no difficulty, but that it would be virtually impossible to present a USIB position on the CSB Committee proposal to establish a CSB computer security committee. Indeed, I suggested that a USIB position on this matter might even be improper. I corrected his impression that the DCID No. 1/16 was the only USIB/CSS activity; I also noted in reply to his question that in recent months, AEC has been represented at only two or three CSS meetings.

3. As our discussion proceeded, he formally asked that I prepare something in writing summarizing USIB computer security activities and including, at my option, any other information pertinent to the task assigned to his Committee by the USCSB. He asked that my report in this regard be forwarded through the Executive Secretary, USIB to the Executive Secretary, USCSB. I pointed out that I would have to report through the Security Committee, if we must formalize the information I would present.

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4. We concluded the conversation by an agreement to discuss the matter further at the scheduled 3 February CSB Committee meeting at NSA. During our conversation, he had indicated that I was welcome to attend this meeting, if I deemed it advisable. The meeting on 3 March took place between 1000 and 1200 hours. In attendance were the same group present on 26 February.

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5. At the beginning of the meeting, [] showed some of those attending a memorandum signed by the Chairman, USCSB, apparently delaying the deadline previously levied on the Ad Hoc Committee of 15 March. In addition, he distributed copies of a memorandum report he had prepared asking for the Committee's concurrence in submitting it to USCSB members before the 15 March USCSB meeting. A copy of this draft memorandum is attached. The report outlines the task assigned to the Ad Hoc Committee, notes the drafting of the paper proposing the establishment of a standing committee to address the entire computer security problem, summarizes comments received from Board members on this proposal, and suggests that the Committee consensus endorses the concept that most aspects of computer security are probably within the domain of the USCSB. Further, it offers two alternative recommendations to the Board: the establishment of a USCSB computer security standing committee and the establishment of a joint USCSB/USIB group to resolve the computer security problem; either alternative suggested the inclusion of OTP participation.

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6. Interestingly enough, the NSA representative endorsed the broad approach to the Committee's responsibility contrary to the position outlined by the Deputy Director, NSA in writing; in addition, [] the Committee Chairman, endorsed this approach, notwithstanding the avowed reservations submitted by the USCSB Chairman in writing.

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7. In discussing the proposed memorandum report, both the Chairman and the NSA representative endorsed it. The Air Force representative generally supported it, but constantly called

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attention to Mr. Froehlke's comments to the earlier proposal. 25X1
 [] did a magnificent, if unsuccessful, job in opposing
 the language of paragraph 5 of the draft memorandum which states
 the Committee view that most aspects of computer security are 25X1
 properly within the domain of the USCSB. [] tried to
 offer, as an approach, the example of the interrelationship of
 computer, communications, and security people working together
 in this area within CIA. The discussion concluded with [] 25X1
 pressing for the forwarding of the memorandum but with agreement
 that a minority dissent could be prepared by [] for 25X1
 inclusion as a final paragraph to the memorandum. Worthy of note
 was the NSA representative's comment that the minority should not
 be identified since she should be supporting the minority view 25X1
 because of [] comment on the original proposal. In
 the course of the meeting, I took no active part. However, the
 NSA representative solicited some information from me in the
 course of the discussion which I provided with the approval of
 [] Among the comments I made in response to questions 25X1
 were:

a. The USIB computer security effort is not
 limited to the protection of Sensitive Compartmented
 Information;

b. The USIB has no desire to become the
 established government-wide computer security
 authority;

c. DCID No. 1/16 is only one of several
 products and one of countless aspects of the com-
 puter security problem that has been addressed
 in the USIB environment.

8. After the meeting, [] asked me if I anticipated 25X1
 any problem in providing in writing the information he had requested
 telephonically the previous day. I told him that I would need a
 written request from him in order to serve as a basis for a formal

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written response. Alternatively, I pointed out that I would have no difficulty briefing the Group on our activities on the basis of an oral request; included in my briefing I could call attention to other considerations pertinent to the task assigned to the Ad Hoc Committee. I could not furnish a USIB position on the proposal made earlier. He seemed more favorably inclined to the informal approach, but indicated he wanted to think about it before a final decision.

9. No meeting date was set for the next Ad Hoc Committee meeting but [] advised that [] would call me in advance.

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Chairman
Computer Security Subcommittee

cc: Chm. /IP Board

Att

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COMSEC 8-WG-3
3 March 1971

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE MEMBERS, UNITED STATES COMMUNICATIONS
SECURITY BOARD**

SUBJECT: Report of the Computer Security Ad Hoc Committee

REFERENCES: a.

b.

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1. The Computer Security Ad Hoc Committee, established on 7 January 71 (Reference a.) was charged with two tasks:

a. Consider the jurisdiction of the USCSB in the field of computer security, and,

b. Solicit comments from the entire Membership of the Board on this subject.

2. Accordingly, the Ad Hoc Committee met on 4 Feb 71 and drafted a paper (Reference b.) which reflected the views of the Committee Members to the effect that the USCSB is a proper national forum to address the problem of computer security and recommended sponsorship by USCSB of a standing committee to resolve the problem with representatives disciplined in the areas of computer technology, communications, and security. *This paper was circulated to Board members for comment.*

3. The majority of the Board Members had provided comments at the time this report was prepared. The comments received covered the spectrum of possibilities with four agencies concurring, two concurring with recommendations, several essentially maintaining the status quo, and two non-concurring with comments. Comments or recommendations included modification of the National Security Council Communications Security Directive to reflect the Board's authority in the subject area, coordination of any Board action with the Office of Telecommunications Policy, handling on a joint basis with USIB, and remaining essentially as is with the Board concerning itself only with COMSEC and EMSEC. There does appear to be general agreement on two points, e.g., that there is a need for a national policy on computer security and that the Board has a role in computer security in the areas of COMSEC and EMSEC.

USCS/B

4. Discussion of the comments by the Ad Hoc Committee indicated that certain departments or agencies are not organizationally structured to allow for easy resolution of a question of jurisdiction and that others had standards for computer security ready for distribution and were reluctant at this point in time to refer the subject to another authority.

5. None the less, and with full appreciation of the reasons for disagreement, it is the consensus view of the Ad Hoc Committee Members that most aspects of computer security (except physical/personnel security) are properly within the domain of the Board; viz., protection against those threats that exist because of the associated telecommunications (e.g., authentication of users, protection against misdelivery of classified information contained in the computer system, protection against introduction of false information into the computer system).

6. In view of the above, the Ad Hoc Committee offers for the Board's consideration two alternate recommendations:

a. Adopt the majority view of the Board Members that the Board is the proper forum to sponsor the effort at the national level to resolve the problems of computer security through the establishment of a standing committee made up of members and OTP, ~~with the understanding that the initial task be confined to amending the Board's charter to reflect the Board's jurisdiction in the subject area, or, or~~

b. Establish liaison with USIB for the purpose of ^{organizing} establishing a joint group to resolve the problem of computer security with participation by OTP as the joint group deems necessary.

[Redacted Signature]

Chairman
Computer Security Ad Hoc Committee

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DRAFT

*Alternative 45 suggested
by NSA to modify*

3 Mar 71

Hilda

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⁵ Further discussion by the Ad Hoc Committee Members revealed that another difficulty in the resolution of the USCSB jurisdiction is the failure to realize that the ADP portion of a teleprocessing system (computer system with remote terminals connected by communications) has assumed some of the communications functions; e.g., authentication of the information input (user/terminal), proper delivery of classified information contained in the computer, etc.

** He still rejected it.*

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